News release

What a difference a year makes

10 August 2004

Last year Britain was reaching for sun screen and the air-conditioning, but this year it's umbrellas and wellingtons. Since Friday, the Met Office has issued more than twenty severe weather warnings, in stark contrast to this time last year when the UK's highest ever temperature was recorded.

Many parts of eastern and northern England have seen a full 24 hours of heavy rain with totals of between 60 to 100 mm. More rain is forecast for later this week.

The Met Office is monitoring the situation closely and is advising the Environment Agency and other government departments on latest developments.

Notes to editors:

24 hour rainfall totals for 9 August 2004:

RAF Wittering, Cambridgeshire 90.8 mm (3.57 inches)
Kirklees, West Yorkshire 80.6 mm (3.17 inches)
Emley Moor, West Yorkshire 75.0 mm (2.95 inches)
RAF Cottesmore, Rutland 72.2 mm (2.84 inches)

Highest recorded maximum temperature in Britain — 10 August 2003 at Brogdale, Kent 38.5 °C (101 °F)

Environment Agency Floodline 0845 988 1188

Check the latest five-day forecast

Latest rainfall radar

Latest Environment Agency flood warnings

Latest Scottish Environment Protection Agency flood warnings

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